

REMARKS

Claims 10 - 20 remain pending in this application.

Claim Objections and rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

The claims have been amended to overcome the Examiner's objections and rejections. The Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned by telephone with any questions.

Double Patenting

Without admitting to the propriety of the rejection under this section, a Terminal Disclaimer is being filed in order to avoid the rejection.

35 U.S.C. §102 & §103

According to the computer-aided design (CAD) information management system of the present invention, a user terminal is connected to a plurality of databases which are managed by a plurality of different manufacturers. This permits the user to easily and directly retrieve CAD information or specification information of parts from a user terminal in accordance with the stored-symbol destination address information. Thus, each database is maintained and managed by the manufacturer that owns that database. As such, the user can obtain the latest CAD information or specification information apart from the user terminal in accordance with the stored-

destination address information without having to do any maintenance work with respect to such databases.

Applicants submit that the databases 1308 shown in Fig. 4 of Shimizu et al do not correspond to the databases recited in the pending claims. The databases disclosed by Shimizu are located at a user's CAD system and are managed and maintained by the user. As such, Shimizu et al do not disclose a CAD information management system in which manufacturers provide and manage the plurality of databases which can be accessed by the user.

Therefore, Shimizu et al do not realize an advantage of the present invention in that it is not necessary for a user to obtain and manage CAD information from a plurality of different manufacturers. In addition, when CAD information is updated, the user has to retrieve and update its own database. Further, the user has to be informed of such updates, as may occur on the manufacturers' side. If a manufacturer updates CAD information on a its database, that data also has to be updated on a user's database, which in turn increases overall workload.

The deficiencies in Shimizu et al are not overcome by resort to Sano et al. Indeed, the Examiner merely relies upon Sano et al for disclosing update history information. Sano et al do not disclose a CAD information management system in which a plurality of databases are located respectively at each manufacturer of a plurality of different manufacturers that permit a user to easily and directly retrieve CAD information or specification information of parts from a user terminal in

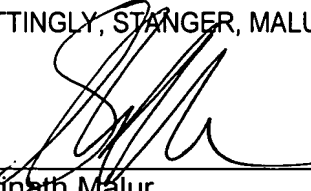
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accordance with stored-destination address information. As such, it is submitted that the pending claims patentably define the present invention over the cited art.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

By 
Shrinath Malur
Reg. No. 34,663
(703) 684-1120